

*The History of Psychiatry Section*  
*Annual Report, 1993-1994*



## *Dedication*

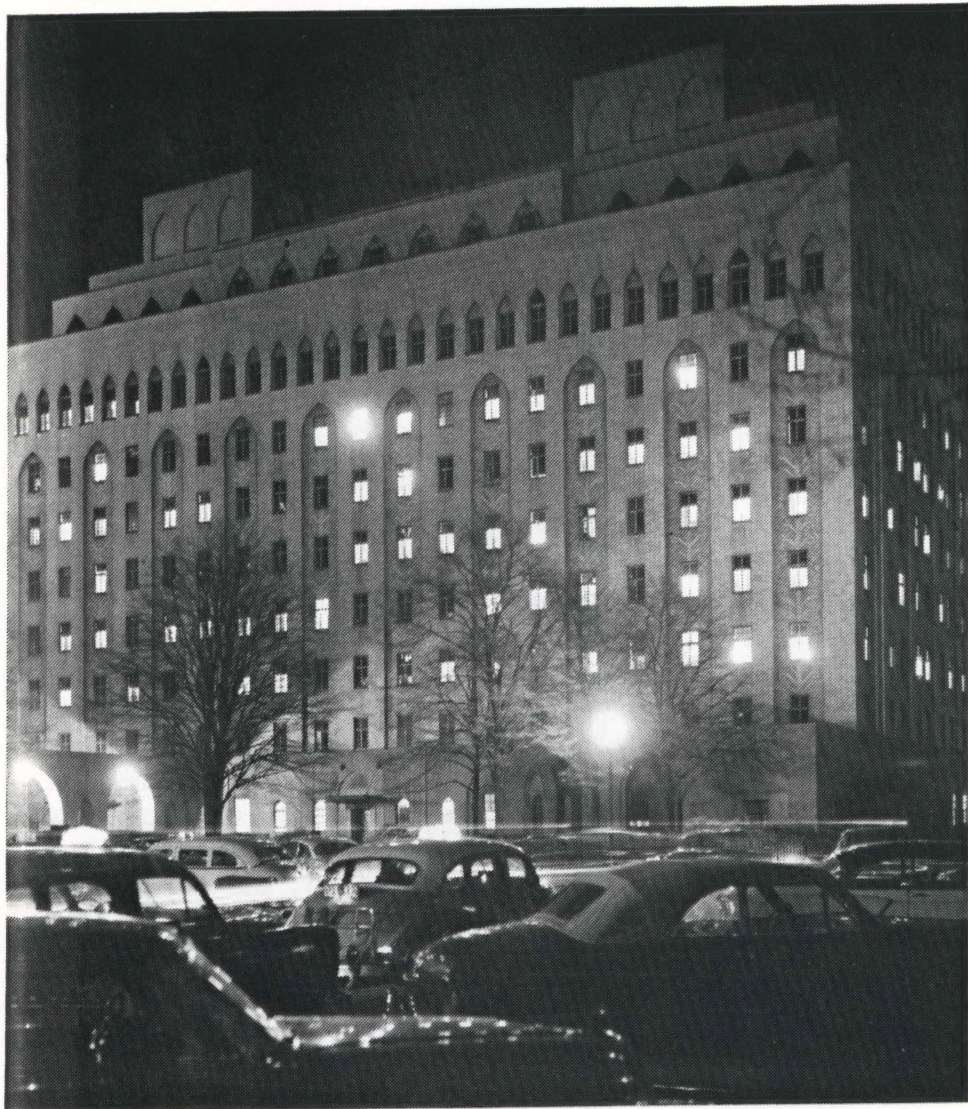
We dedicate this volume to an edifice, the Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic, a building that in its sixty-two years of life provided an unusually effective milieu for the transformation of lives. Built through the generosity and vision of Payne Whitney, it was intentionally sited apart from the other departments of the New York Hospital to provide a fine and restful view, fresh air, light, and tranquility. The most minute details of its design were carefully studied so as to objectify for the individual patient the values of comfort, safety, privacy, gracious living, and therapeutic opportunity.

To this attractive asylum, small enough for its director to become acquainted with each inhabitant, many would entrust themselves, to begin the process of healing and self-renewal. Dedicated helpers, too, would carry out their apprenticeship here under the tutelage of leaders in the field of psychiatry, forming their philosophies and learning the most enlightened methods of treatment. Scientific research of significant value was conducted under its roof. Out-patient clinic and consultation-liaison services flourished, as did nursing, psychology, and occupational, physical, and recreational therapy departments.

Elements of the picture changed--directors, lengths of stay, arrangement of patients on the various floors, the spectrum of conditions treated--but the solid setting for the myriad activities remained stable, comfortably in place, dignified, making its own helpful contribution to the generation of hope and optimism and the vision of a fulfilling future. May the best aspects of its character imbue the settings in which Cornell's Department of Psychiatry continues its care of patients, its teaching, and its research.







**The Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic at Night, 1953**

# *The History of Psychiatry Section*

*Interdisciplinary Research Faculty  
Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminar  
The Oskar Diethelm Library*



## *Annual Report to the Friends July 1, 1993 - June 30, 1994*

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All have appointments at or are employed by Cornell University Medical College. If the member's primary academic position is elsewhere, it is given in parentheses.



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The History of Psychiatry Section is an interdisciplinary research unit in the Department of Psychiatry of Cornell University Medical College and the New York Hospital. Its objective is to carry out, encourage, and advise scholarship in a broad range of historical topics that are relevant to the present day theory and practice of psychiatry. Its basic activities include the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminars and administration of the Oskar Diethelm Library.

The foundation of the Section was laid in 1936, when Dr. Oskar Diethelm, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Director of the newly-opened Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic, began assembling books and journals important to the history of psychiatry, convinced as he was of their value to clinicians. Stimulated by this growing resource, Dr. Eric T. Carlson formally launched the History of Psychiatry Section in 1958, when he received a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to pursue research into the history of American psychiatry. At the same time, Dr. Diethelm appointed him to a newly created half-time position as Director of the Section.

Under the leadership of Dr. Carlson, the activities and collections of the Section steadily expanded to serve a wide range of interests, from the education of medical students and residents to the exchange of ideas among historically oriented scholars from many disciplines. The biweekly research seminar, which has become such a helpful proving ground for works in progress and an occasion for lively intellectual discussion, was instituted by Dr. Carlson in the early 1960s.

When Dr. Diethelm retired in 1962, the Section's rare books library was named in his honor. The Oskar Diethelm Library now contains over 40,000 printed items, constituting the most comprehensive collection of its kind in the United States. Initially, the emphasis was on collecting British and American works from the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries, as well as Renaissance works in Latin. As the Library grew, however, it developed major collections dating from the fifteenth century in French, German, and Italian, as well as acquiring

selected works in Arabic, Dutch, Hungarian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish.

The Library now counts among its holdings nearly every edition of the monographs of such important figures as Emil Kraepelin, Sigmund Freud, Isaac Ray, and Benjamin Rush. There are a number of exceedingly rare volumes of which only a few complete copies are recorded. The Library holds significant collections of works in such areas as the history of hypnotism and psychoanalysis, the American mental hygiene movement, and the temperance movement, as well as religious and medical debates on witchcraft, suicide, and sexual behaviors. There are also many early and rare first-person accounts of psychiatric illness, alcoholism, and drug abuse. The Library is particularly strong in complete runs of several crucial and uncommon journals. An impressive collection of hospital and asylum reports of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries has been amassed, amounting to more than 3,500 items.

Dr. Diethelm recognized the value of knowledge contained in early dissertations written for the medical degree in pre-Enlightenment Europe. He travelled throughout Europe to identify them in foreign repositories and collect what he could for the Library, eventually collating his work into his *Medical Dissertations of Psychiatric Interest before 1750* (Basel: Karger, 1971). The Library's collection of these theses now stands at nearly five hundred.

In 1976, the manuscript division of the Library was officially established, indicating its growing importance as a repository for the unpublished papers of many organizations and individuals vital to the history of psychiatry. The Library now houses fifty-nine manuscript collections. It is the official depository of such institutions as the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, the American Psychoanalytic Association, and the Cheiron Society. Its holdings of the papers of D.W. Winnicott and David Levy make it an important resource for the study of child psychiatry and psychoanalysis. Through the generosity of Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, primary sources have been added to the division relating to such cases vital to the history of forensic psychiatry as the M'Naughton trial and the Guiteau trial, as well as more recent cases such as those of Sirhan Sirhan and David Chapman. There are also notable holdings related to the American mental hygiene movement and biological psychiatry, to give only a modest idea of the variety and significance of the collections. Single items of note held by the division include letters by Clifford Beers, Sigmund Freud, Morton Prince, William James, G. Stanley Hall, Johann Spurzheim, Andrew and George Combe, Herbert Spencer, August Forel, Francis Galton, S. Weir Mitchell, and Harry Stack Sullivan. Access to the Library's unrestricted manuscript collections is guaranteed to any scholar whose research need cannot be met by a published resource.



From its earliest days, numerous scholars have worked in the Oskar Diethelm Library, publishing their discoveries as articles or books. From the Renaissance psychiatry that Dr. Diethelm pursued and the early American psychiatry that Dr. Carson explored, the topics of inquiry multiplied. The list has grown to include biographies of psychiatrists, psychologists, and pioneers in mental hygiene; accounts of the development of child psychiatry and the changing attitude toward children; books on psychoanalysis and its reception in various parts of the world; histories of psychiatry during specific periods, of particular mental hospitals that epitomized the development of the field, and of particular sub-specialties such as the treatment of alcoholism or schizophrenia; studies in legal psychiatry; topics in British, German, and French psychiatry; histories and analyses of ideas and concepts in psychiatry, psychology, and psychoanalysis; works on the relationship between psychiatry and literature, and psychiatry and religion; and investigations of multiple personality and hypnosis. There are as well two published volumes of symposia sponsored by the Section.

Dr. Carlson organized the Friends of the Oskar Diethelm Library in 1964, thus widening the Library's circle of interested and active supporters. Those who could not participate directly, but who recognized the value of the Library's programs, began to give generously to benefit the collections and support the scholars who use them. The Friends' regular membership has grown steadily, while larger grants from far-seeing individuals and foundations have permitted the awarding of fellowships, the acquisition of special collections, and the consolidation of historical materials from the New York Hospital's Westchester division into the Library.

In 1974, the Library received its first permanent endowment. The category of Corporate Friends was established in 1987, and a few organizations and corporations have responded with interest and generosity.

In 1994, the History of Psychiatry Section responded to the prospective razing of the Payne Whitney Clinic by moving the Oskar Diethelm Library to temporary quarters at the New York Academy of Medicine, where its distinguished collections remain fully accessible to scholars. The Library will return to the campus of Cornell University Medical College and the New York Hospital at the end of the six-year Major Modernization Project, to reside in a state-of-the-art facility designed to preserve and utilize this unique resource.



Nineteen ninety-four will be remembered as the year we lost the original Payne Whitney Clinic building. While the spirit (and clinical functions) of the Payne Whitney Clinic have moved on to other locales, the sights and sounds of that extraordinary 1932 structure are now gone. Lucky for us that some of the building's impressions are so vividly captured in the poet Robert Lowell's brilliant and haunting 1957 essay, "Near the Unbalanced Aquarium:"

"One morning in July 1954, I sat in my bedroom on the third floor of the Payne Whitney clinic of New York Hospital, trying as usual to get my picture of myself straight. I was recovering from a violent manic seizure, an attack of pathological enthusiasm. What I saw were the blind white bricks of other parts of the hospital rising in my window. Down the corridor, almost a city block away, I heard an elevator jar shut and hum like a kettle as it soared to the top floor with its second and last allotment of sixteen of my fellow patients going to Occupational Therapy. My mind, somewhat literary and somewhat muscle bound, hunted for the clue to the right picture of itself. In my distraction, the walls of the hospital seemed to change shape like limp white clouds. I thought I saw an enameled wedding cake....

"The hospital was a blending of the latest and laciest Gothic-and-skyscraper styles of the Twenties and Thirties--arch, groin, coign, and stainless steel.... Under its veneer of fragile white bricks, how merely geometrical this New York Hospital was, how securely skeletonized with indestructible steel, how purely and puritanically confined to its office of cures."

Lowell goes on to tell of his daily routine, including the forty minute walk in the courtyard behind the building: "a formal, flowerless place covered with bright gray octagonal paving stones, like some unaccountably secluded and clean French *place*." And during these walks: "we could see the blinding blue sparkle of the East River. Often an orange tugboat was moored a few feet away from us. It had a swollen fleece-and-rawhide buffer on its prow. As if begging admission to our



asylum, the boat kept moving with chafing sounds toward the concrete embankment."

Like Lowell's tugboat, many of us had held out some hardheaded hope that this asylum would continue to allow entry. But this was the final year for such hopes. With the necessity of moving out of the old Payne Whitney, this past academic year was perhaps the most challenging one the History of Psychiatry Section has known. I am pleased to report that with much effort, support, perseverance, and perhaps a touch of good luck, the History of Psychiatry Section has not only survived this change of geography, but has done so in a way that will allow us to flourish in the years to come.

As many of you perhaps already know, our 40,000-item library has been relocated to the New York Academy of Medicine for the six-year interim period of Major Modernization at the New York Hospital. I must thank the generosity of Academy President Jeremiah Barondess, M.D., Senior Vice President Patricia Volland and the always good-natured Academy Librarian Arthur Downing for helping make this difficult and fraught transition work. The support and guidance of David Skinner, M.D., Director of New York Hospital, Robert Michels, M.D., Dean of Cornell Medical College, Acting Chairman William Frosch, newly appointed Chairman Jack D. Barchas, Senior Administrator David Giacandino and Cornell's counsel Joanne Blauer were crucial in this endeavor. Due to the extraordinary navigation of the Library's curator, Paul Bunten, the perilous voyage to 103rd Street and Fifth Avenue was made safely. I would like to thank the support of our Administrative Assistant, Jane Rizzuto Singh, who after 3 years left us in March to pursue her interest in computer technology, and the can-do exuberance of our new Administrative Assistant, Karen Maurer. Thanks to all these people, no boxes of 19th century journals were transformed to "paper snow". Let us be content to say many terrible imaginings did not come to pass. Instead our Library is safely housed, and accessible through the Malloch Rare Book Room of the Academy of Medicine.

The relocation of our Library to the Academy for this interim period also means that for the first time we have been able to consolidate all our holdings. During the next two years, thanks to the generous support of the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Foundation, we will be taking advantage of this consolidation to begin a sorely needed project, the computer cataloging of our books. Getting our holdings into OCLC will make them known to the researching public, (not just those "in the know"). With the completion of this project, we expect a significant increase in usage of the collections.

In the past our collections grew organically with the new spaces that Ted Carlson magically appropriated and quickly filled with books. Now that we are all in one space, it seemed appropriate to rechristen our collections which were formerly divided as the History of Psychiatry Reference Library, the Oskar Diethelm Historical Library, and the

Archives of Psychiatry. Henceforth our collections shall carry the name of the man who did so much to create that collection; they will be known simply as the Oskar Diethelm Library.

I am thrilled to report that the Research Seminars--which have the distinction of being the longest running enterprise of its sort in the country--have also been renamed. In recognition of the generous endowment given by Frank E. and Nancy M. Richardson, the research seminars are now known as the Richardson Research Seminars in the History of Psychiatry. The Richardsons have shown keen interest in maintaining a place for scholarship in the world of academic medicine, and they rightly see the seminars as one vital forum for precisely that. Thanks to the Richardsons, the Seminars will have not just a venerable past, but also a happy and healthy future. The first year of the Richardson Research seminars continued this tradition of excellence under the guidance of Leonard Groopman. As you can see from the seminar schedules, Lennie brought us a broad range of fascinating scholars who have been exploring many facets of our discipline.

The past academic year has been a busy one for our own researchers, with articles, reviews, and significant new books by Barbara Fass Leavy, Sander Gilman, Gerald Grob and John Kerr. Also this year, there is a new book series that will be published under the Section's imprimatur. Last fall, while making our way through crispy duck and black pepper shrimp down in Chinatown, Sander Gilman and I concocted the idea of starting such a series. With the encouragement of John Ackerman, the director of Cornell University Press, the Cornell Studies in the History of Psychiatry series is now a reality. We will put forth book length works in the history of psychiatry beginning this spring. And we believe it is fitting that the History of Psychiatry Section, which has been such a vital source for so long in this now blossoming field, should sponsor the series.

And so, given the difficulties we faced, I believe we have come through this past year remarkably strong and ready to build for the future. Our homes are multiple now, with administrative offices at the New York Hospital, Library at the New York Academy of Medicine and seminars in the CUMC Wood Library. But as this past year has shown me, the community that makes up the Section - its scholars, students, and Friends - has always been and remained steadfast. And that community is not only holding down our center, but providing us with opportunities to grow and build. Sadly, our future will not include one of our most energetic supporters. Samuel W. Perry, M.D was appointed Associate Chairman for Research in our department for little more than a year, when he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. During that year, Sam was a tireless advocate for the History Section. Tragically, he died on March 15, 1994, at the age of 53. A researcher in psychiatric aspects of medical illnesses such as AIDS, as well as a psychoanalyst and esteemed



teacher, Sam was a man whose strength, compassion and zest will be greatly missed.

- George J. Makari, M.D.



SISTER IRENE'S BASKET AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE NEW YORK FOUNDLING ASYLUM.



When I last reported to you in September 1993, we were contemplating the daunting task of relocating the Library to temporary quarters at the New York Academy of Medicine during the period of the New York Hospital Major Modification Project. I am pleased to report one year later that the task was accomplished during the last academic year, albeit just barely ahead of the wrecking ball. The professional library movers, working in spite of every conceivable obstacle and through some of the worst winter weather in memory, completed the third and final phase of the relocation in May. Stayed by neither snow nor gloom of night, they relied on a combination of sound judgment and strong backs to extract the collections safely from the rapidly decompensating Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic and install them across town on their new shelves, all the while maintaining the nervous curator's comfort at a reasonable level.

It was a revelation to see all of our collections shelved for the first time in one place, on two renovated stack levels of the Academy Library. What had previously lain nearly hidden in the various closets and storage rooms commandeered over the years by Dr. Carlson to contain the burgeoning collections, could suddenly be encompassed by the eye, and finally, by the mind. The scope and richness of the collections was far greater than any of us had imagined, but so too, the eventual task of organizing them effectively for the use of scholars.

Our cooperative efforts with the Academy have begun slowly, but one benefit has certainly been that the collections have attracted more readers during this academic year than the last. We look forward to a profitable relationship with the Academy that will endure after our return to the New York Hospital campus.

In April, the Policy Committee formally adopted "The Oskar Diethelm Library" as the Library's official name, to refer to and include what were formerly known as the Oskar Diethelm Historical Library, the History Reference Library, and the Archives of Psychiatry. The single name provides the Library with a strong



identity by which it can conveniently and memorably be known to the sharply widening body of scholars who are becoming aware of its resources.

By naming our library after the collector who contributed the core of the collection, we are placing ourselves in the tradition of the great historical medical libraries of the world, such as the Countway, Cushing, Osler, Waller, and Wellcome Libraries. It gives the Library a very human quality, and allows us to begin a discussion of ourselves and our history in a very sympathetic way, with a narrative of our founder and his collecting activities. The name also recognizes the fact that many people have long referred generally to our library as the Diethelm Library anyway, failing to appreciate the local distinction that was once made for books shelved in the old Payne Whitney basement.

In May, the annual meeting of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences was held in New York. I was able to meet and consult with colleagues from across the country, many of whom had not been aware of the Library's existence. During the meetings of the American Association for the History of Medicine the following weekend, several historians of psychiatry expressed interest in using the collections, a number of whom have contacted me since.

Also in 1994, the Library was honored to be asked to contribute about a third of the objects comprising an important educational exhibition, "Madness in America: Cultural and Medical Perceptions of Mental Illness Before 1914." The exhibition places the medical history of American psychiatry in a broader social and political context, and reflects on what the changes in the conceptions and representations of mental illness tell us about the past--and present--of American society itself. The Library's participation allows it both to contribute to the intellectual life of the nation, and to make the academic community aware of the resources in the history of psychiatry that await it in New York.

The exhibition, which will tour nationally for about a year, opened to great acclaim on May 23rd in Philadelphia, to celebrate the 150th anniversary meeting of the American Psychiatric Association. The exhibition is curated by Lynn Gamwell, Ph.D., the eminent historian of art and psychology who presented "The Sigmund Freud Antiquities" to a national audience between 1989 and 1992.

We are particularly pleased that the exhibition has funded substantial conservation work on more than half of the items contributed by the Library. Other institutional lenders to the exhibition include the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Yale University Art Gallery, and the New York Academy of Medicine, which places us in distinguished company indeed. Jean Carlson graciously lent three marvelous phrenological heads from the

collection of her late husband, Dr. Ted Carlson, one of which has become the signature piece of the exhibition.

An edited version of the exhibition will open on November 4, 1994, at the New York Academy of Medicine and the New York Academy of Science, which will run until the end of the year. There will be a schedule of lectures and other public events to complement the New York presentation.

Near the end of the academic year, the Library entered in to an agreement with Gryphon Editions under which Gryphon received permission to create facsimile editions of volumes in the Library's collection as part of its "Classics of Psychiatry" series. In return, Gryphon will fund the complete conservation treatment of each item lent to them, so that our books will return to us in far better condition than when they leave us. Since Dr. Carlson served for many years as the general editor of this series, we felt it was particularly appropriate for us to begin cooperating with its publisher in this way. We have begun by providing our copy of George Man Burrows's *Commentaries, on the Causes, Forms, Symptoms, and Treatment, Moral and Medical, of Insanity* (London, 1828) for facsimile publication in late 1994.

Since its founding in 1936, the Oskar Diethelm Library has grown to comprise some 40,000 items in nearly every possible format of intellectual creation, including printed books and serials, manuscripts, microforms, moving images, recorded sound, paintings, photographs, prints, and realia; in short perhaps the single most important resource in the history of psychiatry in the world. Unfortunately, the Library remains unknown to the majority of the world's scholars, and of limited usefulness to those who are familiar with it, because its collections have not been cataloged. They are accessible only through a rudimentary, incomplete, and often ineffective card-based finding aid, which no longer meets the needs of sophisticated information users.

Speaking at the end of the academic year, it appears that the Library will soon have the wherewithal to hire a catalog librarian, whose primary responsibility will be to raise the bibliographic access to the Library's holdings to a level that befits its extraordinary quality and usefulness to the international scholarly community. He or she will do this by creating a standard, machine-readable (or computer-based) catalog of the Library.

The Library is poised to become a part of the largest of the international bibliographic networks, known as "OCLC," which contains millions of bibliographic records contributed by its members, and which will thus permit the Library to record its own holdings. These local bibliographic records will then be loaded into the on-line public access catalog of the New York Academy of Medicine, which is soon to be accessible internationally through the Internet. Through



our relationship with the Academy, they will eventually also be contributed to the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN), which will make the international access to our research collections truly extraordinary.

I hope that when I next report to you, these plans will have begun to be realized. It is through the support of the Friends of the Oskar Diethelm Library that such plans are possible at all.

- Paul S. Bunten



UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE GREAT BRIDGE.



## **Welcome to Jack D. Barchas, M.D., Chairman**

In September of 1993, Jack D. Barchas became the Barklie McKee Professor and Chairman of Psychiatry at the Cornell Medical College and the New York Hospital. We are very fortunate to have this brilliant scientist, accomplished administrator, and gracious colleague as our new Chairman.

Dr. Barchas was raised in California where his father, a lawyer and bibliophile, was an ardent student of the history of science (the family's rare book collection--the Samuel I. and Cecile M. Barchas Collection in the History of Science and Ideas--is now an important part of the Stanford University Library). After obtaining his medical degree from Yale and post-doctoral training at the NIH, Dr. Barchas did his psychiatry residency at Stanford. Ultimately he held the Nancy Friend Pritzker Professorship and Associate Chairmanship of the Department of Psychiatry at Stanford University. Before coming to Payne Whitney, Dr. Barchas was the Dean for Research Development and Neuroscience at the UCLA School of Medicine.

Over the course of his daunting research career, Dr. Barchas has played a crucial role in the discovery and understanding of numerous neuroregulators, identifying and exploring the control mechanisms and the behavioral effects of these neurochemicals. He is the author of some 400 articles and is the editor or author of 13 books. He is currently the editor of the *Archives of General Psychiatry*, a member of the Institute of Medicine, and vice chairman of the Council on Research of the American Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Barchas is perfectly suited to lead our department. While he obviously brings years of experience and success as a researcher to the task of building up such endeavors at Cornell, he is a seasoned administrator, and a broad-minded advocate of psychopharmacologic as well as psychosocial treatments, including psychoanalysis. Furthermore, in line with his family's love for the history of science, Dr. Barchas has been a very enthusiastic supporter of the History of Psychiatry Section. We are very glad to have him here, and offer him a warm welcome.





## Oskar Diethelm Memorial Service

On October 27, 1993, colleagues, relatives, and friends of Dr. Oskar Diethelm filled the Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic auditorium to celebrate his life, in a program sponsored by the Department of Psychiatry and organized by Dr. William Frosch, Vice Chairman, with the help of the History Section. Before introducing eight distinguished professors in the order that they came to know Dr. Diethelm, **Dr. Frosch** prefaced the program with some apt associations of his own. A powerful image that had possessed his imagination in visualizing the meaning of Dr. Diethelm and his role at the Payne Whitney Clinic was that of the last scene of Wagner's opera *Götterdämmerung*: "The Gods were dying, the giants were dead, and the walls were crumbling."

On the lighter side, Dr. Frosch recalled a telephone conversation between his wife Paula and Dr. Diethelm some years previously: "Paula and Oskar had a very special relationship focussed around books, and he called one evening to consult her about the care or repair of some ancient volume, and they were talking for about five or seven minutes when suddenly Oskar interrupted and said, 'I must apologize. I'm not wearing a tie.' Paula, in typical fashion, said, 'Oskar, that's all right, I'm not wearing any shoes.' It really typifies his courtly, gracious, gentle manner, and we will all miss him."

The first speaker was **Dr. Arnold Gillespie Diethelm**, Oskar Diethelm's son, who is Fay Fletcher Kerner Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Alabama School of Medicine. Dr. Diethelm presented a brief review of his father's life illustrated with many interesting slides. Particularly evocative were the scenes from Switzerland, of the town of Lachen on Lake Zurich where Dr. Diethelm was born, and of the nearby Valley of the Wägital from which his ancestors came. A glimpse was afforded of scenes relating to Oskar Diethelm's arrival in the United States, his work at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, special family occasions, the years in New York, and the final return to Switzerland at the end of his life. At the end of the service Dr. Diethelm told of an experience that illustrated his father's astuteness and his intimate knowledge of the natural history of psychiatric disorders, when his father helped him by long distance telephone to deal successfully with a serious and puzzling psychiatric complication occurring in a young girl in the weeks following renal transplant surgery. This talk brought out the impressive continuity of the Diethelm family tradition of medical practice and community service through six consecutive generations.

**Dr. Helen Daniells**, Clinical Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry, a psychoanalyst and a popular teacher in the Department of Psychiatry for almost fifty years, who met Dr. Diethelm as a first year medical student at Cornell in 1937, described his teaching methods and program of that period:

"I want to talk today about the early years of Dr. Diethelm's career, when he came to Payne Whitney from Hopkins and his work with Adolf Meyer. When I came to Cornell as a first year medical student in 1937, he was already very well established as Professor although he was less than forty years old. He taught psychiatry all four years to medical students, beginning with normal personality, psychopathology, psychotic illnesses, and neuroses. At Payne Whitney he ran a very strict service.

"The residency was normally three years, with one resident becoming assistant chief and finally chief resident, a tenure of five years. We had twelve residents in a pyramid fashion, and the responsibilities for each year were increasingly complex, with the difficult patients assigned to more experienced residents. The chief resident interviewed the patients applying for admission and their relatives, screened and admitted the patient to the suitable floor, more or less restrictive with intensive nursing care, and transferred the patient to more open floors as he or she improved. He was expected to make daily rounds and to handle all immediate problems with the nurses and residents. There was little interference. We were simply not expected to make mistakes.

"While he did accept one or two women residents into the program they seldom stayed the full three years, and I was the only woman chief resident, not because of any outstanding talent or any particular accomplishment, but because there was a war going on, and most of the young people were being drafted after one or two years. In spite of this, once I was appointed he treated me as a respected younger colleague, and I never felt any restraint. And in looking back myself, I think I was a pretty good chief resident.

"Dr. Diethelm himself made rounds with each resident for half a day each week, reviewing the patient's progress, visiting the nursing station, and interviewing each patient for ten or fifteen minutes. He was a master interviewer. He would begin with some question to the patient, drawing them out, and always ending on a constructive note. If the resident said something significant, he would write a few words on the four-by-six card he kept for each patient, and at the end of the patient's stay he would put a small plus or minus, which we always considered meant whether we had succeeded or failed, but was actually his assessment of whether or not the patient could be readmitted if there was a recurrence of the illness.

"It was a basic tenet of his philosophy that each patient, according to the severity of his illness, could come to understand his



pathology and cooperate with psychotherapy, taking responsibility as best he could. There were no anti-depressants or anti-psychotics at that time, although by the end of my residency we did have electric shock treatment, and sub-coma insulin was used. But we're talking about a very different era in psychiatry, where the main approaches were conservative--environmental control, activities, and psychotherapy. We could use cold wet packs or prolonged baths for excitement. Patients could not be locked in their rooms, and we were not able to use strait jackets, which were utilized in many other hospitals. We admitted mainly patients in the first illness, who had shown some accomplishment in life: professional people, young successful students, women who had productive lives, where it was considered that the prognosis was good.

"Dr. Diethelm was interested in maintaining a teaching hospital, where it was possible to affect a stabilizing environment and control precipitating or aggravating factors in the outside world, and where patients could stay long enough to respond to routine and psychotherapy. But the cost at that time was only a hundred dollars a week for a private room, and thirty dollars or even less for a dormitory bed, so that patients could stay six months or even a year. The average stay was perhaps three months. Residents saw patients two or three times a week for forty-five or fifty minutes unless the patient was very disturbed, and a thorough history and understanding of psychopathology was expected. We worked with the patient to help him gain insight, and to restore his equilibrium and social functioning. There was gradually increased freedom as the patient improved, from locked to unlocked floors and visits out.

"Dr. Diethelm followed Meyerian theory and principles of treatment. He never accepted psychoanalysis or the concept of the unconscious. Our focus was on day-to-day behavior and understanding of faulty life patterns, on the conflicts, and on possibilities of corrective behavior. In spite of his interest and respect for research, we were not encouraged to undertake this on our own or read about other approaches. Although later in his career he was more relaxed and allowed residents more freedom, in my day it was a very controlled training.

"In spite of his formality, he could be very warm and responsive in personal crises and capable of considerable flexibility when he felt the situation required it. Although the range of his teaching was restrictive, we learned in depth about psychopathology and what we would now call ego psychology, which was very helpful in allowing patients to re-integrate and establish control over their lives. Even after psychoanalytic training, which I was allowed to begin when I was chief resident because I was a wartime resident and there were particular stresses on me, this has continued to be a governing principle in my own thinking and therapy. His close

attention to our growth and his great personal dedication made him a great teacher. I am happy to have the opportunity to honor him today."

**Dr. Walter Riker**, Revlon Pharmaceutical Professor Emeritus and former Chairman of Pharmacology and Toxicology at NYH-CUMC, met Dr. Diethelm in 1938 when he was a first year Cornell medical student as well and, looking him up from time to time to discuss matters of interest to him, over time developed a strong friendship with him. At luncheon meetings, where topics from history and the humanities were discussed, Dr. Riker learned "that Oskar was a professor and scholar in the broadest sense of these academic distinctions. He may have been thought shy by some..., but this wasn't really so. He simply assumed no facade; he had no tolerance for bombast or sham or affectation...."

Dr. Riker quoted his own remarks, still true, made when he had inducted Dr. Diethelm as an Honorary Fellow of the Cornell Medical College Alumni Association in 1983: "Oskar Diethelm's distinguished scholarly career has brought honor to our Center. His abiding researches into the history of medicine, psychiatry, and humankind's cultural development serve to identify origins and evolutions of major twentieth century concepts of psychiatry. His dedicated efforts took him to the great libraries and rare book dealers of the world. He moved readily to and from the Graeco-Roman, Renaissance, and Middle Ages to the Space Age. As he said--and this was a direct quote from him: 'It is necessary to learn how cultural settings influence the concepts of the time and the place in order to understand the development of ideas and to see how they are utilized.' On Dr. Diethelm's retirement in 1962 his library of rare historical books had grown to some twenty thousand, and was most fittingly named The Oskar Diethelm Historical Library." By those who knew him "as teacher, colleague, or friend, he was revered for his wisdom, scholarship, integrity, and as the extraordinary person that he was." Dr. Riker asserted, "I am happy that my dear friend and teacher had the full and outstanding life that was his."

**Dr. William Lhamon**, Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry at NYH-CUMC, who followed Dr. Diethelm as Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, had been a psychiatric resident under him in the 1940's. Dr. Lhamon confessed that he was "always a little fearful of him..." even though "he was kindly and always answered questions..." Among other tributes, Dr. Lhamon cited Dr. Diethelm's great interest in books and his skill at acquiring good books for the growing library. He recalled his professor's somewhat formal teaching procedures and his zealous precautions, in conducting case conferences, to protect the patient's confidentiality. What was most



admired about Dr. Diethelm, however, was "his dedication to teaching. He never missed a teaching session, and he didn't attend other activities that seemed quite as important to me. But he just didn't. If he was going to teach, he taught. And all of us who were taught by him got something from it. I'm not sure how this happens, but he was one of the rare people that you don't forget as a teacher." Dr. Lhamon felt that, among all the people he had known or studied under, Dr. Diethelm's influence had made the most lasting impression on him.

**Dr. Jolyon West**, Professor and former Chairman of Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences at UCLA School of Medicine, had come to Cornell as a resident in 1949: "I was told later that I was the first resident that had ever been chosen without a personal interview on site here, and at least for a year or two after that I was assured that the Professor determined it should never happen again." Fresh from Minnesota, Dr. West told the story of how he had to learn the ground rules the hard way. Dr. Diethelm was away when he arrived, and Dr. West went ahead and administered the MMPI to all his patients in order to try to characterize changing psychopathology with it. What he didn't understand "was that these were not my patients. They were his patients. Every patient in the Payne Whitney was the Professor's patient. And you didn't give some unknown psychological test to the Professor's patients without his permission..." However, later Dr. Diethelm encouraged Dr. West to publish his study.

The Professor's residents "held him in awe. He was seen as an austere, remote, and rather forbidding figure, as Bill Lhamon has said, but part of this was just being Swiss. We didn't know that, and some of the things that he did which we considered had great and profound significance were in retrospect really rather simple ways of helping us to learn what we came here to learn. It was not only that he made rounds with every resident every week, and saw every patient in the place himself. It was that he was here to do it. Other department chairmen, myself included, went to meetings, and we went to give papers here and there, and to spread the good news about what wonderful departments we headed and all the rest of this. Oskar Diethelm, when he came back from his summer vacation, was right here all the time, making his rounds, seeing his patients, seeing his residents. His whole life was tied up in this.

"He may not have been a friend of psychoanalysis, but he was a good student of Adolf Meyer. People have forgotten that Adolf Meyer was one of the founders of the American Psychoanalytic Association. Dr. Diethelm, we thought, must be an enemy of psychoanalysis, but he wasn't any such thing. And many of the things that he taught were psychodynamically quite sophisticated, things that

the folks at that hotbed of psychoanalysis at Columbia never would have imagined were going on at the Payne Whitney, which was considered quite a reactionary Meyerian kind of a place.

"One of the things that he did was to do a bit of a personal analysis on each and every one of the first year residents. We had to write an autobiography, and he went over it with us, and he remembered what was in it. And if we got into certain kinds of problems with patients he would call it to our attention. If we were not getting somewhere fast enough for him, he would ask if this patient reminded us of someone, and he'd know who it was.

One of the many interesting anecdotes that Dr. West told illustrated "not only something about my relationship with the Professor, but something very important about him and what he taught me and all of us. I guess I was in my second year by then and in charge of the disturbed women's section...quite the toughest of the in-patient units, and, of course, I wanted to make it into a better place for my having been there than it was before." Dr. West was a "phonograph buff" and wanted to introduce the new, safe unbreakable LP records and a high fidelity phonograph to the unit: "I went to the Professor and said I think it would help these women, who were so disturbed and so forth - to have music and that I would like to install a system to play music on seven north. And I gave quotations about music therapy and studies that showed how it had benefitted. We discussed his teaching that colors made a difference, and I said surely if colors make a difference then music could make a difference. This discussion went on for several weeks before he finally gave permission and authorized the expenditure of one hundred dollars to install this system. And I was responsible for the whole thing. I couldn't quite bring it in for a hundred dollars, but I didn't dare spend more than that of the Payne Whitney's money so I went 12.50 over, but I paid for that out of my own pocket. That was in 1951 and at compound interest I think that you now owe me a lot of money. Well, I was very eager to display this accomplishment, and the Professor seemed to be determined not to see it...And when he came up to make rounds, somehow he managed to use up the whole time seeing the patients, then he had to leave and didn't have time to go down to the day room to see the hi-fi. So the next week I tried very hard, and I got him half way down the hall after he'd seen the last patient. And suddenly he stopped, and he turned and he says, 'What's that?' (I'd try to imitate his Swiss accent, but I'm sure I can't succeed.) I said, 'That's a table, Dr. Diethelm.' He said, 'What's on it?' I said, 'Magazines.' He said, 'What are those magazines?' I thought, he's stalling. He doesn't want to see the hi-fi system. He said, 'May I see those magazines?' So I showed him, he says, 'This is Life magazine, Newsweek magazine.' He handed it to me, he said, 'What's the date on this?' I looked at it and I said, 'Well, it's three



or four weeks ago now.' He said, 'Why do you have Newsweek four weeks old?' I tried to think of what to reply. The nurse, the head nurse who sort of looked after us residents, seeing that I was at a loss, said, 'Dr. Diethelm, the patients don't really read those magazines. They just tear them up.' He didn't even look at the nurse. He just looked at me and he said, 'Who wants to read Newsweek from four weeks ago?' He said, 'If you had this week's Newsweek, maybe the patients would want to read it, and they wouldn't tear them up.' He was very serious.

"I got the message, and the next week when he came up it was this week's Life magazine and this week's Newsweek, and the patients did look at them, and they didn't tear them up. But the Professor didn't even glance at that table. He knew I would've gotten the message, that I would've taken corrective action. Instead the first thing he did was stroll down and say, 'I want to see your new hi-fi system,' and he spent the whole time telling me what a fine idea it was to have music for the patients.

The music didn't make that much difference, but my lesson about the dignity of the patient, no matter how sick, and the importance of respecting that dignity, no matter how smart we thought we were, would be the most important thing to learn. I did learn that from him, we all learned that from him."

Dr. West ended thus: "I would like to think that I speak here not just for myself but for all the others on the house staff when I was here, especially those who have, like the Professor, gone beyond this mortal sphere: Bill Harvey, Al Sherwin, Don Greaves, Ed Everts, John Gussen, and, of course, Ted Carlson. I like to think that - you know, the Payne Whitney's going to be torn down, it'll be gone - maybe in some better place there's a model of the Payne Whitney the way it was in those marvelous days. And all these guys, Ted Carlson and the rest, are up there in that great Payne Whitney in the sky making rounds with the Professor, and the paint is always white and the plaster never cracks."

**Dr. Norman Dain**, Professor of History at Rutgers University, met Dr. Diethelm at the time that the History Section was founded. "In 1958 Dr. Oskar Diethelm, as chief of the Department of Psychiatry at New York Hospital- Cornell Medical Center, approved not only my appointment as research assistant to Dr. Eric T. (Ted) Carlson but the establishment of what came to be called the Section on the History of Psychiatry. Shortly thereafter, in the early 1960's, Dr. Carlson gathered together a small group of five and sometimes six of us interested in the history of psychiatry, to meet every other week to discuss our work in progress. It was at these meetings, which for many years Dr. Diethelm attended fairly regularly, that I came to know him. His interest in history was already of long standing, for it

was he who explored the monasteries of central Europe in search of historical material to develop collections that grew into the best library in the western world on the history of psychiatry, and which appropriately now bears his name. Dr. Diethelm enthusiastically supported Dr. Carlson's successful efforts to expand the collection and extend the scope of the Section. These two thoughtful wise men, different in personality, but sharing a commitment to the scholarship of their field, and having a fine understanding and appreciation of each other, had an especially close relationship.

"It soon became apparent that Dr. Diethelm, premier psychiatric practitioner and administrator, had a sophisticated knowledge of the intellectual history of France, Germany, and Austria, as well as the history of psychiatry in Europe generally. When relevant he would give us brief but trenchant summaries of central European psychiatric classics from late medieval to modern times. Dr. Carlson always called on Dr. Diethelm to comment first on the papers read at our meetings, and when he consented to do so he always had something to say worth hearing. In the early years I, a graduate student in History at Columbia University, and unfamiliar with the workings of Payne Whitney, did not realize how unusual it was for a man so busy as Dr. Diethelm to be so well informed on many of the sometimes esoteric subjects we historians discussed. What was more, he himself did valuable historical research, which was eventually published as a book on medieval German doctoral dissertations dealing with topics related to mental illness, and its diagnosis, prevention, and treatment. Dr. Diethelm was also much interested in current developments relevant to the history of psychiatry, but he was always circumspect in his comments on contemporary writers and their theories. He did have his limits, though. Once, I remember, Dr. Diethelm told me how impressed he was with the favorable comments he had read about Foucault's book *Madness and Civilization*. When I told him that Foucault had described the medieval ship of fools not as a literary allusion but as an actual therapeutic procedure in the treatment of madness, he read the relevant passages, closed the book, and declared he would have nothing more to do with such foolishness.

"Dr. Diethelm was part of our group, not the leader. He left that to Ted Carlson's capable hands. He never pulled rank, never sought to dominate or control discussion; nor did he speak when he had nothing to say. When he did speak, the keenness of his mind and his critical faculty were most impressive. But he was always judicious and kind in his criticisms, careful not to hurt feelings. He helped to create a friendly, mutually respectful atmosphere and freely entered into the spirit of the group, joking along with the rest of us. He obviously enjoyed the give and take of our discussions, and he did what he could to help our work. In my case, which I presume was



not unique, he assisted me in gaining access to hospital records necessary to my research in the history of psychiatry, and he read my work. After his retirement Dr. Diethelm continued his historical research, and on occasion would come to Section meetings, which, as the Section and its reputation grew, were now much more heavily attended, with many speakers from other institutions and other countries. He took a quiet pride in the achievements of the members of the Section and relished the wide-ranging discussions. Dr. Diethelm's support was crucial not only to the creation of the Section and the library but to their continued functioning. Without his sponsorship and participation, this unique research center, in the midst of a clinical institution, could not have flourished the way it did. He helped very substantially to create at Payne Whitney a tradition of scholarly, intellectual interest in the history of psychiatry in all its aspects, a tradition that his successors have perpetuated. "

**Dr. Jacques Quen**, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at CUMC, "met Oskar Diethelm in 1961, when I applied for an affiliation to the Payne Whitney Clinic. I had heard of this fearsome Swiss psychiatrist, who was supposed to run his department like a martinet, to be fiercely anti-psychoanalytic, humorless, and authoritarian. The interview, which I approached with understandable anxiety, was remarkable for the skill, grace, and courtesy with which he conducted it. Soon after, Ted Carlson introduced me to the History Section and its Research Seminar. The concept of a psychiatric department section on the history of psychiatry was uniquely Oskar Diethelm's. To my knowledge there is no such other, in the United States or elsewhere. He firmly believed that one could not teach or practice psychiatry well without an appreciation for the history and the development of the theories and techniques one was using, as well as for the theories and techniques of our professional forebears. Dr. Diethelm was a regular attendee at those seminars as Chairman of the Department and as Professor Emeritus. When he was with us in the small group, he would display a wit and humor that, for some reason, I never saw in public. Dinner at the Diethelms was always a gracious and relaxed experience, with Oskar and Monique insuring that everyone was included in the conversation and was having a comfortable and a good time.

"Oskar had many publications, but two of them have a special significance for me. In 1936 he published his textbook on *Treatment in Psychiatry*. In the preface he commented, 'With the development of dynamic psychiatry the physician found it necessary to concern himself not only with the disease pattern of a case, but also with the personality in which it appeared. Although a beginning has been made, much remains to be done to bring about a satisfactory union of both methods of approach. Both the teacher and the practicing

physician have a tendency to stress one or the other mode of procedure.' I believe it was this call for a combined approach and his preference for Meyerian psychobiology that led enthusiastic adherents of psychoanalysis to consider him to be anti-psychoanalytic. He once said to me that it was not, in his view, that he was anti-psychoanalytic, but that he was troubled by the fact that so many of the residents were willing to accept maxims and rules of thumb from psychoanalysis without really understanding their derivation and the evidence for it. He went on to say in the introduction to his textbook that he tried 'to do justice to the principle that we need to treat the patient who suffers from a disease and not to treat the disease entity.' These characterized his teaching and clinical philosophies. Reading that textbook is an experience in meeting someone with an inherent, pervasive respect and sympathy for the patients that he wrote about.

"Thirty-two years later, in 1968, he wrote the introduction to a New York Academy of Medicine reprint of Emil Kraepelin's *Lectures on Clinical Psychiatry*. At that time American psychoanalysis was at its zenith or, perhaps, had just passed it. He said in the introduction: 'The development of dynamic psychopathology followed Kraepelin's outstanding contributions and was not sufficiently appreciated by him. The present student of psychiatry should keep in mind that careful observation and dynamic investigation are supplementary and that the two methods become contradictions only if one or the other is neglected or suppressed.' These comments are as relevant to the radically different circumstances in which psychiatry finds itself today as they were when they were made more than a half century ago and a quarter century ago. Oskar Diethelm was among the wisest and the most considerate of the people I've had the pleasure of knowing."

The final speaker was **Dr. Robert Michels**, Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean of Cornell Medical College and former Barklie McKee Henry Professor of Psychiatry. "I was nominated for the chair in Psychiatry, Oskar's chair, twenty years ago this month. I'd heard of him and read his writing, but had never met him. A few months later Bill Lhamon, then the chairman of the Department, invited me for dinner in his home, the large mansion at the Westchester Division. Oskar was also to be a guest. We met there for the first time. Oskar took a fancy to my wife. She came from Swiss parentage, and spoke, with a poor vocabulary but perfect accent, Schwyzerdütsch, and he was charmed by that. He also was fascinated by me, not because of me, but because I would, as I came to learn, be occupying his chair. It was always his chair. I entered it and it was his chair; seventeen years later I left it and it was once again his chair. While we were at Bill's house, we were called in for dinner. Oskar and I arrived at a narrow doorway simultaneously. He



was at that point in his late seventies. I stepped back to let him pass. And he said, educating me in my new role, 'Oh, no, you go first. You are the chairman.' It was, of course, his chair and important to him that I went first.

"A few months later when I came to the office in Payne Whitney and Bill was showing me it, I saw Oskar's desk. It was to be my desk. It had been Bill's. I opened the drawers and discovered that in the bottom drawer there were compartments, vertical partitions that split the drawer into smaller portions. 'What is that for?' I said. Bill told me, 'Those are for Oskar's cards.' I looked and found some of the cards in the drawer. Bill hadn't used the drawer. Nor did I, for some years. The partitions remained. Oskar might want to come back, and those were his cards.

"Only a few months later, Hugh Lucky, then the President of the medical center, called me one morning. I responded to the call. Hugh was surprised and said, 'Oh, you take calls in the morning.' 'I didn't know I wasn't supposed to take calls in the morning,' I said. He said, 'Oskar never took calls in the morning. Oskar made rounds in the morning, and he didn't talk to administrative people about administrative things until he was through with his rounds.' Later I learned that Oskar left every summer for Europe, and some decades ago when the medical center instituted a policy of one month vacations, no one ever had the nerve to tell Oskar about that. He went to Europe every summer.

"A few years after that, we decided to create a video history of the department and I had the privilege of interviewing Oskar, on a videotape that still exists in our collection. He talked about his selection for the chair here, the recruitment process, and also the fact that his mentor Adolf Meyer had advised him not to take it. He explained why. The Payne Whitney Clinic was built on the model of the Phipps Clinic but was approximately twenty-five percent bigger. Phipps had eighty patients, Payne Whitney was to have slightly over a hundred. Meyer told Oskar, and Oskar agreed with him, that you should never take a job in a psychiatric hospital if you couldn't know every patient personally. Because if you didn't know the patients personally, bad things happened. I told Oskar that at the time we were talking I had more than a hundred full-time faculty members and I struggled vainly to know every one of them personally. I'd given up on knowing the two thousand five hundred patients admitted to the medical center in psychiatry each year personally. Oskar shared with me his view that Meyer was right and I was wrong, and in retrospect there was some wisdom in that.

"He talked to me from time to time about clinical things over the years. He told me once of a nurse that he had to fire at Payne Whitney because she had slapped a patient, and the one thing that could never be accepted in the staff caring for a patient is that they

lost control of their temper and responded to the patient with any kind of aggression. He told me about his horror, [upon visiting an outlying hospital], to find that patients were incontinent and smearing on the walls. And Oskar taught me a piece of psychiatry. He said, 'That never happens in non-organic patients unless there's total disruption of the organization and psychology of the staff.' If you teach your staff how to run a psychiatric hospital you can differentially diagnose organic from non-organic patients by whether or not they regress to that level. But if the staff isn't well trained you can't do that.

"He knew that I was interested in the psychiatric interview, and he taught me a gem of interviewing that's only of relevance to people who become chairmen of psychiatry departments such as this one. He said when you go by on rounds and the patient's there, and the resident has spent many hours with the patient and presents the case, the patient always has a secret that he hasn't told the resident. If you tell the patient you're the chairman, the patient will tell you the secret that he hasn't told the resident. Then, Oskar added, it's very important that you not make the resident feel humiliated that the resident did wrong by not finding that out, because the only reason the patient told you and not the resident, is because you were the chairman, and the patient knew it. I submitted this particular theory to empirical tests and I validated it. I'm not sure I ever shared it with anyone, though; I thought it was best to keep that validation to myself.

"One of the most distinguished awards in American psychiatry is the Distinguished Service Award of the Thomas W. Salmon Committee. I'm now chairman of that committee, I was not a member of it at the time that they gave the award to Oskar, which was in 1970. I have the copy of the citation from the committee's files. It's unsigned, but I strongly suspect that this citation was written by a then-member of the committee, Professor Bill Lhamon, who's in the audience here, though he probably doesn't remember whether he wrote it or not at this point. 'The Thomas W. Salmon Committee on Psychiatry and Mental Hygiene'--it's well written by someone who knows Oskar, that's what makes me think that--'is honored to present the distinguished service medal and citation to Oskar Diethelm, revered teacher, dedicated clinician, and steadfast advocate of academic psychiatry. Your thirty-five years of continuous service at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Hospital, and at the Cornell University Medical College - New York Hospital, were marked by an unalterable and intense embodiment of all that is best in the term 'Professor', a term by which you were, and always will be known to the many students and staff you trained and inspired. You early published a valuable book and papers on treatment in psychiatry, written clearly and concisely, and with constant emphasis on fundamentals. Your insistence that your students at all times observe



closely and take into account the detailed psychopathology of their patients provided healthy balance to youthful speculations. Your refusal to be diverted by manifold administrative pressures'--that's those morning phone calls--'or indeed by any activity unrelated to the care and observation of patients and the teaching of psychiatry remains as a standard of academic excellence particularly apt today. Your encyclopedic knowledge of world literature pertaining to psychiatry and to academic affairs generally, has rarely been equalled. Your steady collection of historical materials and your formation of an unsurpassed historical library graces your city and reminds us, in a time of explosive change, that the past is of great relevance for us today.' I think that summarizes much of Oskar's contributions to the profession and to Cornell.

"I remember only one paper that I heard him give directly. It was to the History of Psychiatry Section, some years after I'd become chairman, and I visited it when he presented his study on the Pharmacopeia of the Witches' Brew, and he analyzed each of the items and elements in the witches' brew in terms of its indications, effects, side-effects, contraindications, whether it be the skin of the toad, or the liver of the frog, etc. etc. etc. It was a fascinating paper. Oskar took the ingredients of the witches' brew with the same seriousness with which a pharmacologist takes the treatments we use today and, I suspect, with the same validity for their effectiveness. He'd been there longer than most of us.

"On his ninetieth birthday I had the privilege of leading the department in singing 'Happy Birthday' to him. We invited him to Grand Rounds. Afterwards I joked with him. I told him that I was looking forward to leading the department in singing 'Happy Birthday' to him on his hundredth birthday. He told me with a smile, 'I'm not sure we'll both be here then.' I reminded him of that only a year or two later when I stepped down from the chair and had occasion to meet with him and told him that I was afraid I wouldn't be able to lead the department in singing 'Happy Birthday' to him on his hundredth birthday, but I'd try to be present in the audience.

"A new chairman sits in Oskar's chair, for only a few weeks now. In my orientation of him, I explained to him that it was Oskar's chair, that I had sat in it, that Bill Lhamon had sat in it, that Bill Frosch had sat in it, but the structure and organization of this department is Oskar's permanent legacy to this medical center. He inherited a psychiatric hospital located next to a medical school. He created out of it against considerable odds and by his personal skill in persuading and organizing and collecting the resources and the support for it, an academic department of psychiatry. And he created the structure that has persisted--I would say because of (I wish) and at times perhaps in spite of--the leaders that followed him, structured by his chair so they couldn't do that much harm. I think the job

description of the Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Cornell University Medical College - New York Hospital is to take good care of Oskar Diethelm's department."



INSANE PATIENTS AT WORK IN THE BRUSH SHOP, BLACKWELL'S ISLAND.





## ***Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminar***

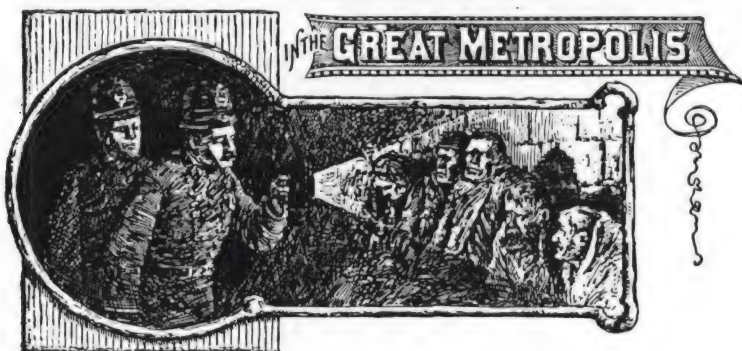
### ***Seminar Program Director's Report***

In my first year as Program Director of the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminar I sought to carry on the decades-long tradition first established by Drs. Diethelm and Carlson of inviting speakers both from among the Section membership and from outside the Cornell community. This past year, fourteen speakers traveled to York Avenue from other institutions and five came from within our walls. The mission of the Seminar has been broadly construed, to include scholars in the fields of art history, literary criticism, biography, and philosophy, as well as in the history of psychiatry proper.

The generous gift from the Richardson family has enhanced the scope of the seminar. It has enabled me to invite scholars from more distant parts, and to begin to plan for speakers and programs that previously might have been beyond our reach. The Richardson donation will allow the seminar not only to uphold its institutional reputation, but further to establish itself as the foremost colloquium in the history of psychiatry.

In the midst of several changes experienced by the Section and the Clinic this past year, the Seminar has remained an anchor to the Section, providing a crucial locus of intellectual and social interchange. Because of the physical relocation of the Payne Whitney Clinic, the Seminar can no longer be held in the much-loved ODHL. For the coming year the Seminar will relocate to the Stimson Room of the Wood Library. In this new setting, I hope to continue the traditions of academic excellence, intellectual excitement, and collegial goodwill, first established by Drs. Diethelm and Carlson.

- Leonard Groopman, M.D., Ph.D.

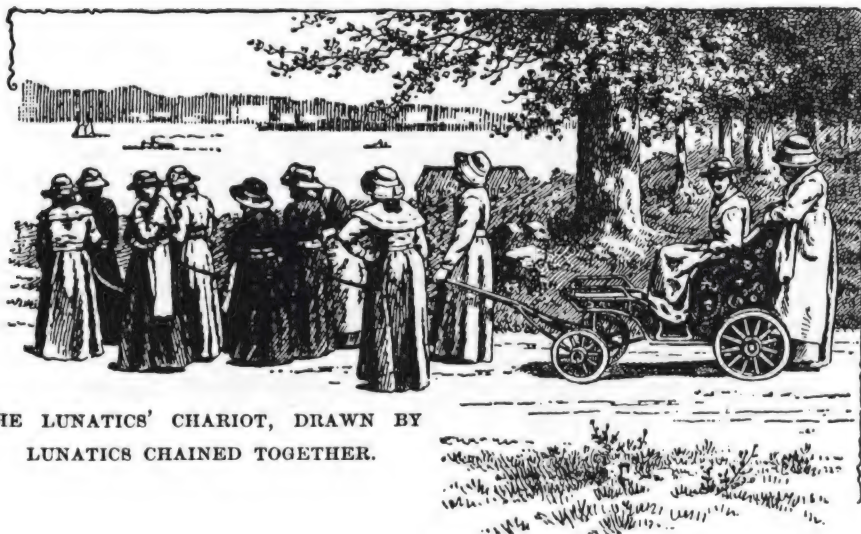


## *Research Seminar Presentations, 1993-1994*

- September
- 8 Stephanie Kiceluk, Ph.D., Columbia University  
"Sign and Story: Psychiatry's Schism and the First Psychoanalytic Case History"
- 22 Steven C. Martin, M.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
"Alternative Medicine and Mental Health: Chiropractic Psychiatry, 1890-1940"
- October
- 6 Louis A. Sass, Ph.D. Rutgers University  
"The Paradoxes of Delusion: A Wittgensteinian Interpretation of Schreber"
- 20 Nancy Locke, Ph.D., Wayne State University  
"Desire and Dream in 19th Century France: Medical Discourse and the Image of the *Dèjeuner sur l'Herbe*"
- November
- 10 David Musto, M.D., Yale University  
"Are We Entering Another Temperance Crusade?"
- 17 Daniel Todes, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University  
"The Unknown Pavlov: Politics and Anthropomorphism in Pavlov's Ideas on Animal Behavior"
- December
- 1 Ellen Handler Spitz, Ph.D., CUMC  
"Fantasy, Empathy, and Conflict in Picture Books for Young Children"
- 15 Peter J. Swales, Independent Historian, New York City  
"'Gangsterling': The Haunted Mind and Psychoanalysis of William S. Burroughs"
- January
- 12 Herbert Spiegel, M.D., Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons  
"Silver Linings in the Clouds of War: A Five Decades Retrospective"
- 26 Eric Caplan, Ph.D., Washington, D.C.  
"Discovering Psychotherapy: The Emmanuel Movement and the American Medical Profession, 1906-1910"
- February
- 9 Barbara Fass Leavy, Ph.D., Queens College  
"An Embarrassment of Awakenings: Feminism and Psychology in Kate Chopin's Novel"



- 23 Katie Roiphe, Princeton University  
"Trifling with Psychiatrists: Nabokov and that Viennese Medicine Man"
- March
- 9 Richard Noll, Ph.D.  
"The Historical Context of C.G. Jung: Some New Information of the Cultural Sources of his Theory and Cult"
- 23 Gerald Smith, M.D. CUMC  
"Pavlov's Conceptual Nervous System"
- April
- 6 Jean Strouse, Independent Scholar, New York City  
"Pierpont Morgan: Some Psychological Questions"
- 20 Racquelle DaRosa, Columbia University  
"Still Life in the Nineteenth Century: Autonomy and Automatism"
- 27 Toby Gelfand, Ph.D., University of Ottawa  
"Charcot and Freud Revisited Again"
- May
- 4 Craig Tomlinson, M.D., Columbia University  
"Empirical Investigations into the Soul: Confessions, Clinicians, and the Case History, ca. 1785"
- June
- 1 Madeleine Sprengnether, Ph.D., University of Minnesota  
"Mourning Freud"



## **Research Faculty News**

**Anna Antonovsky, Ph.D.** organized a celebration of the founding of the Coalition of Independent Psychoanalytic Societies in the United States, which was held during the IPA Congress in Amsterdam in July, 1993. She was active on the Training Committee and the Faculty Promotions Committee of the White Institute, and served as one of the Directors of the American Board of Psychoanalysis in Psychology.

Dr. Antonovsky taught a required course on the evolution of Freud's ideas on technique, with follow-up and modification by some modern Freudian thinkers, to the candidates of the White Institute. She also presented a paper on "Trauma and Symbolization" to the William Alanson White Psychoanalytic Society, one of a series in which several members were invited to present their particular viewpoint in psychoanalytic clinical work.

**Daniel Burston, Ph.D.** appeared on a television panel along with John Kerr and Phyllis Grosskurth on the show "Imprints", aired by TV Ontario. The panel discussed "Freud, Literature and Contemporary Culture." Dr. Burston helped organize the 12th Annual Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center's Conference entitled "R.D. Laing and Existential Phenomenology" where he spoke on "Laing's Existentialism." He gave an invited address on "Freud, Fromm and the Pathology of Normalcy: Clinical, Social and Historical Perspectives" at the International Erich Fromm Symposium at the Washington School of Psychiatry which he organized with Mauricio Cortina. He also spoke at the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminar at Payne Whitney Clinic on "R.D. Laing: The Early Years." Dr. Burston has been invited to join the editorial board of the *Journal for the Society for Existential Analysis*, and recently received a grant from Duquesne University to complete his work on a book on Laing.

**Ralph Baker, M.D.** continues work on "Le Roman de la Rose - Self-awareness in the late middle ages."

**Norman Dain, Ph.D.** authored work on psychiatry and anti-psychiatry in the U.S. Publications on this subject are as noted in the publications column or in press. He also taught graduate courses in the History of Psychiatry and the History of Science at Rutgers University.

**Lawrence Friedman, M.D.** received the Hans W. Loewald Memorial Award from the International Federation for Psychoanalytic



Education, and became an Honorary Member of the New York Psychoanalytic Society. He made several presentations this year including: "Ferrum, Ignis and Medicina: Return to the Crucible," which was the Plenary Presentation for the American Psychoanalytic Association meeting in Philadelphia; a lecture entitled "What's at Stake in the Objective Truth Controversy" at the Chicago Association for Psychoanalytic Psychology; "The Objective Truth Controversy: How Does it Affect Tomorrow's Analysts?" at the International Federation for Psychoanalytic Education; and a discussion of papers by Capen and Spence on "What is a Clinical Fact?" at the 75th Anniversary Conference of the *International Journal of Psychoanalysis* held at West Point.

Dr. Friedman serves as Associate Editor of the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* and on the Editorial Boards of the *Psychoanalytic Quarterly* and *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*. He is Editorial Consultant to *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*. At the Psychoanalytic Institute at NYU Hospital in the Spring Dr. Friedman taught a course on "Freud's Papers on Technique". He also served on the Program Committee of the American Psychoanalytic Association and is a member of the Rapaport-Klein Study Group.

**Sander Gilman, Ph.D.** was awarded the Theodore Christian Hoepfner Award for the Best Essay in the Southern Humanities Review for 1993 for "Max Nordau and Sigmund Freud: The Politics of Conversion". He gave the Plenary Lecture at the Triannual Conference on the History of Psychiatry in London, a lecture at the Taniguchi Symposium on the History of Medicine in Tokyo, and lectured at the Humanities and Psychiatry Conference of the World Psychiatric Association in Cologne. Dr. Gilman is President-Elect of the Modern Language Association, and continues work on an NEH Humanities, Science and Technology Grant in support of the Freud, Race and Gender Project(1991-93).

He also taught courses including "Reading Freud" and "Psychoanalysis: Clinical Discussion Class" at Cornell University, Ithaca. Dr. Gilman and George Makari, M.D. are co-editing the Cornell Studies in the History of Psychiatry series to be published by Cornell University Press. Dr. Gilman's latest books are described later in this report.

**Robert Goldstein, M.D.** presented a paper at the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminar on "The Higher and Lower in Mental Life: an Essay on J. Hughlings Jackson and Freud" which has been accepted for publication by the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*. Dr. Goldstein continues as a research fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at Cornell University Medical College.

**Gerald Grob, Ph.D.** served as the chairperson of the History of Medicine Study Section at the National Institutes of Health(1993-95), and as Vice President of the American Association for the History of Medicine (1994-96). At the European Association for the History of Psychiatry's Triennial Conference in London, Dr. Grob gave the Plenary Session Address on "Reflections on Writing the History of American Psychiatry". He also gave the Samuel Radbill Lecture at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia on "The History of the Asylum Revisited: Personal Reflections", and he gave the invited lecture "Deinstitutionalization: The American Experience "at the WHO Europe Conference in Finland. His new book *The Mad Among Us* is described in this report.

**Leonard Groopman, M.D.** continues as Program Director of the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminars at Payne Whitney Clinic. He is an "Expert Rotator" in psychiatry at the CUMC Second Year Medical Student course in medical ethics. Dr. Groopman supervises second year residents on the in-patient service and PGY III's on the consultation-liaison service.

**Leon D. Hankoff, M.D.** presented a paper, "Unbelievable Earliest Memories" at the APA Convention in Philadelphia, co-authored by Dennis Sandrock, Ph.D. and Chris Williams. He spoke at Pediatric Grand Rounds of Elizabeth General Medical Center on "Adolescent Depression & Suicide", and presented at the Elizabeth General Medical Center on "Psychological Trauma." Other lectures include: a lecture at a Public Forum at the George F. Billington Education Center of Elizabeth General Medical Center on Depression; and a lecture on "Secondary Depression" to the Department of Psychiatry at Muhlenberg Hospital. Dr Hankoff and Pat Neary-Ludmer, Ph.D. conducted a practicum for a class in "Adult Psychopathology" at Rutgers University.

**Nathan Kravis, M.D.** joined the faculty of the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research where he taught in its Psychotherapy Division course for psychiatrists and psychologists and in a theory course for psychoanalytic candidates. He continues as a supervisor for Payne Whitney Clinic residents. He joined the American Psychoanalytic Association's committee on History and Archives, and was appointed to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*.

Dr. Kravis also served as a discussant of George Makari's paper on the history of the idea of transference at the Association for Psychoanalytic Medicine and gave two lectures to NYU psychiatry residents on the history of psychiatry.



**Barbara Fass Leavy, Ph.D.**'s new book *In Search of the Swan Maiden* is reviewed in this report.

**George Makari, M.D.** continues in his role as Acting Director of the History of Psychiatry Section. He was appointed Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Cornell University Medical College as of July 1, 1994. He is a candidate at the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research. Dr. Makari and Elizabeth Auchincloss, M.D. co-taught a class for PGY IIs called "Introductory Psychodynamics".

Dr. Makari served as a Guest Co-editor with Sam Perry, M.D. for a series of historical articles in *Hospital and Community Psychiatry*, 1993-94, commemorating the American Psychiatric Association's 150th anniversary. He and Sander Gilman are currently co-editing the Cornell Studies in the History of Psychiatry series to be published by Cornell University Press. He lectured on "In the Eye of the Beholder: Helmholtzian Perception and the Origins of Freud's 1900 Concept of Transference" at the Association for Psychoanalytic Medicine, co-authored a presentation with Theodore Shapiro, M.D. "On Psychoanalytic Listening" at the Meeting of the International Psychoanalytic Association in Amsterdam, and also served as guest lecturer "On the Analytic Process" for "Freud in his Time", a psychology course given by professor Sander Gilman to undergraduate students at Cornell University, Ithaca.

Dr. Makari received two prizes for his paper "In the Eye of the Beholder": the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* Award for the most outstanding paper published in the journal in 1993; and the Alexander H. Beller Award of the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, for the best paper by a candidate or recent graduate.

**Doris Nagel, M.D.** continued her work on a book about the treatment of schizophrenia in the United States during the first half of the twentieth century. Dr. Nagel is focusing on the life of a wealthy patient whose family brought to him the leading psychiatrists of that period. This is her second year as Editor of the Section's Annual Report.

**Jacques Quen, M.D.** completed his term as president of the New York State Psychiatric Association, and as the New York State Representative to the Assembly of the American Psychiatric Association and its Assembly Executive Committee. He also completed his term of membership on the American Psychiatric Association's Assembly Committee on Planning, and the American Psychiatric Association's Committee on History and the Library, remaining as a guest member of the latter group. He continues as a

guest member on the Committee on History and Archives of the American Psychoanalytic Association.

Dr. Quen was the recipient of the Fifth Annual Dr. Anthony Maniscalco Award of the Department of Psychiatry of the St. Joseph's Hospital. The award lecture was entitled "The general hospital psychiatrist and questions of patients' competencies". He also gave two guest lectures to residents at the New York University Medical Center on the history of American psychiatry, and provided clinical supervision for two third year residents. Dr. Quen continues work on editing a selection of papers by the late Bernard L. Diamond, M.D.

**Craig Tomlinson, M.D.** spoke at the Richardson History of Psychiatry Seminar on "Empirical Investigations into the Soul: Confessions, Clinicians, and the Case History, ca. 1785." He completed his PGY III in psychiatry at Columbia and continues his dissertation research for a PhD related to the History of Psychiatry at Yale University.



INSANE PATIENTS AT WORK IN THE BASKET WEAVING ROOM, BLACKWELL'S ISLAND.

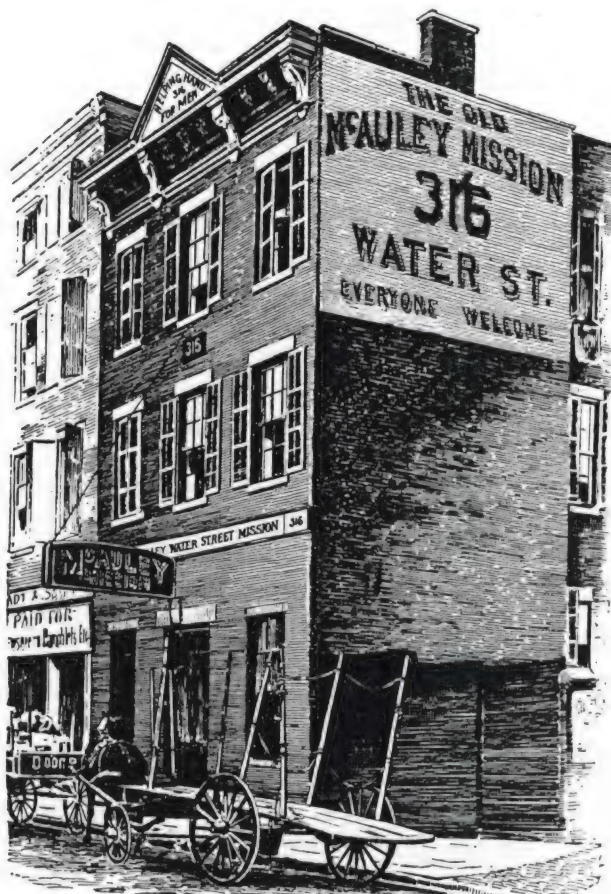




## 1993-1994 Research Faculty Publications

- Burston, D. Review of *The Revision of Psychoanalysis*, by E. Fromm. *Psychoanalytic Books* 1993:4(2).
- . Review of *Madness and Modernism*, by L. Sass. *Psychoanalytic Books* 1993:4(3).
- Dain, N. "Psychiatry and Anti-Psychiatry in the United States." In *Discovering the History of Psychiatry*, R. Porter and M. Micale, eds. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1994:415-444.
- . Reviews of *Medicine in America*, by J. Cassedy; and *Doctors and Their Patients: A Social History*, by E. Shorter. *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 29 (1993):373-378.
- Gilman, S. *The Case of Sigmund Freud: Medicine and Identity at the Fin de Siècle*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993.
- . *Freud, Race, and Gender*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993.
- Gilman, S. et al, eds. *Hysteria Beyond Freud*. Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1993.
- . *Reading Freud's Reading*. New York: NYU Press, 1993.
- Gilman, S. Review of *From Paralysis to Fatigue*, by E. Shorter. *American Historical Review* 1993:138-39.
- . Review of *Freud and the History of Psychoanalysis*, T. Gelfand and J. Kerr, eds; *Helene Deutsch: Collected Papers*, P. Roazen, ed; *Briefwechsel of Freud-Binswanger*; *Biographisches Lexikon der Psychoanalyse* of Muhlleitner; *Conrad Ferdinand Meyer and Freud*, by A. Grinstein. *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 67 (1993):581-586.
- . Reviews of *A Most Dangerous Method: The Story of Jung, Freud, and Sabina Spielrein*, by John Kerr; and *Madness and Modernism: Insanity in the Light of Modern Art, Literature, and Thought*, by Louis Sass. *Forward*, 1993.
- Grob, G. *The Mad Among Us: A History of the Care of America's Mentally Ill*. New York: The Free Press, 1994.
- . "The History of the Asylum Revisited: Personal Reflections." In *Discovering the History of Psychiatry*, R. Porter and M. Micale, eds. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994:260-281.
- Hankoff, LD. and PD. Darney. "Contraceptive Choices for Behaviorally Disordered Women." *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, June 1993.
- Hankoff, LD. Review of *Suicide: Guidelines for Assessment, Management, and Treatment*, B. Bongar, ed. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, August 15, 1993: 270(8).
- Kravis, NM. "Rapport and Transference: Victor Race and the Marquis de Puysegur." *Hospital and Community Psychiatry*, 1994;45(4):325-328.
- Leavy, BF. *In Search of the Swan Maiden: A Narrative on Folklore and Gender*. New York: NYU Press, 1994.
- Makari, GJ. "Franz Anton Mesmer and the Case of the Blind Pianist." *Hospital and Community Psychiatry* 1994;45(2):106-110.
- . "In the Eye of the Beholder: Helmholtz, Post-Kantian Perception, and Freud's 1900 Theory of Transference." *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 1994;42:549-580.
- Makari, GJ. and T. Shapiro. "A Linguistic Model of Psychotherapeutic Listening." *Journal of Psychotherapeutic Practice and Research* 1994;3:37-43.
- . "On Psychoanalytic Listening: Language and Unconscious Communication." *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 1993;41:991-1020.

- Makari, GJ. Review of *Reading Freud's Reading*, S. Gilman et al, eds. *International J. of Psychoanalysis* June 1994;75:624-626.
- Nagel, DB. Review of *The Autobiography of Edward Jarvis*, R. Davico, ed. *Journal of the History of Medicine* April 1994;49:293-295.
- Quen, JM. "Daniel M'Naughten and the Robert Peel Myth." *Newsletter of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law* Sept. 18 1993;2:36-37.
- . "Witchcraft and Judge Matthew Hale." *Newsletter of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law* Dec. 18 1993;2:74-76.
- . Review of *The Selling of DSM: The Rhetoric of Science and Psychiatry*, by SA Kirk and H Kutchins. *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 1994;68(2):372-373.



THE WATER STREET MISSION.



## *Recently Acquired Books of Note*

The upheaval and dislocations of the past academic year necessitated a brief slowdown in the acquisition of old and rare books. So we thought it might be of interest to present notices or reviews of current books that are closely related to the activities of the History Section. They are written or edited by members or close affiliates of the Section or contain articles by our members.

The reference collection's conference table area in which we could congregate to work and talk is no more. This has made it temporarily difficult to keep up with each other's activities. This book section may take up some of the function of a "common work area", as well as illustrating the rich and diverse productivity of our research faculty.



Lawrence Friedman, *The Anatomy of Psychotherapy*. Hillsdale, N J : The Analytic Press, 1988.

One wonders what it is like for a modest man to have his *Anatomy* widely admired.

Though the author embodies Montaigne's ideal of intellectual humility, the works that flow steadily from his pen are hardly timid forays along trampled paths. Rather they are challenging, sometimes discomfiting, excursions that strike right at the heart of the matters they explore. And they do so in the distinctive authorial voice of an unclassifiable soloist. Indeed, Friedman's elegant corpus has all the retiring modesty of a virtuoso's cadenza.

His *Anatomy* is a synthetic *tour de force* that weaves together twenty years of thinking and writing about psychoanalytic theory. It is a volume that richly repays the re-readings it demands. Those virgin Friedman readers who thought themselves passably sophisticated regarding the relation of theory to practice, theories of therapeutic action, and recent trends in psychoanalytic theorizing will emerge from their maiden journey through this book humbled by its richness and profundity yet delighted to find the complexity of their discipline so cogently articulated. Friedman's magnum opus purveys to its readers in spades what a really good interpretation offers an analysand: a not-altogether-pleasant shock of recognition coupled with the support inherent in feeling understood.

- N. Kravis



- Sander L. Gilman, *The Case of Sigmund Freud: Medicine and Identity at the Fin de Siècle*. Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1993.
- Sander L. Gilman, *Freud, Race, Gender*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton U. Press, 1993.
- Sander L. Gilman, et. al., eds., *Reading Freud's Reading*. New York: NYU Press, 1994.
- Sander L. Gilman, et. al., eds., *Hysteria Beyond Freud*. Los Angeles: U. of California Press, 1993.

And so, the game is up. These books constitute incontrovertible, implicit acknowledgement that - as competing scholars have long suspected - "Sander L. Gilman" was never just that friendly fellow from Ithaca. Rather "Sander L. Gilman" is an acronym for a small school of inter-disciplinary scholars, with expertise in the history of medicine, German studies, Jewish studies, critical theory, psychoanalysis, etc. Each letter in the acronym apparently represents an individual scholar, though the identities of these men and women remain a matter of some speculation. Hence, it is easier to understand how this team of scholars have been able to complete two edited volumes and two written volumes in the last academic year. The scores of published articles go without saying.

First, *The Case of Sigmund Freud: Medicine and Identity at the Fin de Siècle*, which I believe was written by the "m" scholar (exegesis like this remains tentative). With the support of other members of the team, "m" has been exploring the nexus between racial science, its medical derivatives and the construction of psychoanalysis. Covering the construction of the Jew in anthropology, literature, and medicine, this work extends and strengthens "S's" long standing contention that Freud's Judaism helped shape aspects of psychoanalytic thinking. (While exploring Freud's identity is well and good, it is ironic to note that the identity of the "Sander L. Gilman" group remains secret.) This work as well as *Freud, Race, Gender* (a likely collaboration between "m" and "r", who is a feminist scholar) mark the culmination of "Sander L. Gilman's" decade long pursuit of these issues. The work combines a detailed contextualist historical approach with a subtle attention to rhetoric and literary construction. The discussion of Morel's degeneracy and the ramifications of this theory for a Jew in fin de siècle Vienna, is especially important. Also, interesting are the conclusions about the "femininity" of the emasculated male Jew in Viennese culture, and the importance of this symbolic resonance for Freud's theories of female development.

*Reading Freud's Reading* is clearly the work of the "G" scholar, in my opinion. "G" is a congenial sort, who has in the past brought together scholars for a number of fascinating symposia; this edited work bears the mark of his hand. This time "G" assembled an

interesting group at the Freud Library in London, where they carefully combed through Freud's marginalia for clues to his intellectual predecessors. This endeavor resulted in fine essays on Freud's sources for his writings on the likes of Leonardo, Schreber and Signorelli.

The "L" scholar who has in the past written elegantly on visual representation and psychiatry, has been relatively quiet in the last years. However "L" reemerges with his/her nicely illustrated essay, "The Image of the Hysteric" in *Hysteria Beyond Freud*. Here "L" centers discussion on the nineteenth century representations of hysteria that came from Jean Martin Charcot and Paul Richer in Paris, comparing these to the images that came from Hugh Diamond, Sir Charles Bell and Charles Darwin, to name a few.

In summary then, it has been an excellent year for the "Sander L. Gilman" group. It has also been a good year for those of us who track this consortium, with verified sightings in Ithaca, New York City, and Chicago.

- G.J Makari



Gerald N. Grob, *The Mad Among Us: A History of the Care of America's Mentally Ill*. New York: The Free Press, 1994.

The first book length, scholarly history of the mentally ill in the United States was Albert Deutsch's classics *The Mentally Ill in America*, published in 1937. Now historian Gerald Grob, over half a century later, offers his version of the story and brings it up to date. His scope is broad, encompassing the growth of the psychiatric profession, changes in the mental health field during and after World War II, criticisms of psychiatry and mental institutions, and most notably, public policy, his special interest. Understandable, more than half the book is devoted to the twentieth century, especially World War II and succeeding decades. As in his recent detailed study of those years, *From Asylum to Community: Mental Health Policy in Modern America* (1991), Grob is most concerned with the struggle to reorient psychiatry away from mental hospitals and toward community care. He stresses the unforeseen and indeed undesirable consequences of this process, and he criticizes psychiatrists' overoptimistic claims of success. But, in his characteristically balanced way, he gives little quarter to those who claim that psychiatry is incapable of helping the mentally ill to lead better lives, and he argues that the neglect of mental patients today is out of keeping with the best tradition of our society's efforts to care for the mentally ill.

- N. Dain



John Kerr, *A Most Dangerous Method: The Story of Jung, Freud and Sabina Spielrein*. New York:Knopf, 1994.

The Section now has a book we have long been waiting for: *A Most Dangerous Method: The Story of Jung, Freud and Sabina Spielrein*. It makes John Kerr's enormous erudition available to us even when he's not around to share his wealth of knowledge.

In John's moving story two creative thinkers give each other intellectual and political support at first, but are then drawn into antagonism by psychological, as well as theoretical forces. Kerr believes that their hostilities were muted by their fear of the other's knowledge of their guilty secret. Spielrein emerges as an extraordinary woman whose treatment *cum* affair with Jung had profound effect on his theory, while inspiring an important theory of her own that was poorly appreciated by the analytic community. The interweaving of passion and system-building in these figures is arresting, and Spielrein's constructive use of her contaminated analytic experience and betrayed romance is inspiring.

John Kerr has created such an immediate sense of personal adventure in the early days of psychoanalytic theory-creation, and of the personal tragedies that surrounded it, that one hardly realizes how many historical, theoretical and biographical narratives he has skillfully blended into the account.

The book is really two-in-one. Students of the period will now regularly begin their orientation with the unique Bibliographic Essay that John Kerr has appended. In it he guides the reader through the vast scholarship, some of it quite new, on this period of psychoanalytic history. With this book the library can provide the sort of help that has been previously available only on a word-of-mouth basis.

- L. Friedman



Emil Kraepelin (1899), *Psychiatry: A Textbook for Students and Physicians*, 2 volumes. H. Metoui & S. Ayed trans., J. Quen ed. Canton, Massachusetts: Science History Publications, 1990.

This two volume edition of the sixth edition of Emil Kraepelin's textbook (1899) in original English translation is welcome, overdue, and invaluable. It not only makes available the richness of Kraepelin's clinical system, a close study of which will compel the contemporary reader to consider anew both the kind and quality of reasoning that underlies modern psychiatric nosology and intervention,

but it also closes an outstanding, almost unconscionable gap in the resources available to English-language psychiatric historiography.

Kraepelin (1856-1926) trained under both Bernhard Von Gudden and Wilhelm Wundt, as well as the neuroanatomist Paul Emil Flechsig whom Kraepelin detested. Eugen Bleuler and Auguste Forel numbered among Kraepelin's international colleagues and directly training under him were Nissl, Aschaffenburg, Alzheimer, and Brodmann (as well as the Americans Smith Ely Jelliffe and Charles Macfie Campbell). His recently published *Memoirs*, another welcome edition to the bookshelf of the English-language medical historian, provides a first-hand look, at once tough-minded and personal, at that network of physicians who took psychiatry into the twentieth century. Within that network, moreover, Kraepelin must be considered at minimum to be *primus inter pares*, and his *Textbook* lies at the very heart of his manifold contribution.

First published as a small handbook in 1883 as a means of supplementing a *privatdocent's* salary, Kraepelin's text went through nine editions altogether and swelled from 348 pages to over 3,000. In its later editions, the text is a masterpiece. It contains practical information about such topics as the usefulness and limitations of available medications and the relative desirability of long versus short hospitalizations for individual disorders. But as well it contains Kraepelin's reasoned, and most often prescient, conclusions about a host of theoretical topics, ranging from etiology to neural mechanisms, that were, and in some cases still remain, beyond the reach of empirical test. These virtues, moreover, were complemented by a capacity for rich phenomenological description -- of a kind that still makes a worthy model -- together with a high degree of psychological sophistication that, if it did not find any measure of tolerance for what Kraepelin considered the highly speculative formulations of psychoanalysis, nonetheless could and did encompass forays into such areas as linguistic functioning in dreams and the diagnostically specific alterations in trains of association.

The values of Kraepelin's text just mentioned are truly important, yet it was its clinical contribution to the classification of the endogenous psychosis (due presumptively to "Intoxication") that most commends the work to psychiatric history. In the fifth edition, published in 1896 while he was still in Hiedelberg, Kraepelin initially codified the distinction between dementia praecox (schizophrenia), a diagnostic category which included the heretofore distinct syndromes of catatonia, hebephrenia, paraphrenia, and other less clearly defined disorders, and manic-depressive insanity, a category under which Kraepelin united existing observations about the relation between what is now known as uni-polar and bi-polar affective disorder. In a word, the text inaugurated modern psychiatric nosology for the endogenous psychoses.



The present translation, quite appropriately, is of Kraepelin's sixth edition, published in 1899, but three years before he was to take the chair at the University of Munich where he remained for the rest of his career and where he eventually succeeded in creating the first full-scale psychiatric research institute combining all the relevant disciplines in the world. In this edition, Kraepelin further distinguishes "paranoia" as yet a third syndrome, one distinct from manic-depression and dementia praecox (both which might nonetheless entail persecutory, grandiose, or querulous symptomatology). And in justifying this innovation, and in further buttressing the previous distinction made in the fifth edition, he appealed to laboriously accumulated outcome statistics. In earlier editions Kraepelin had consistently argued for a clinical, as opposed to merely descriptive, approach to nosology, with onset, course, and outcome the touchstones for diagnostic decision-making. In later editions, the reliance on outcome statistics would become yet more prominent. But it is in the sixth edition, that the distinctive merits of the Kraepelinian system, considered in both its methods of analysis and the accuracy of the resulting taxonomy, became uniquely apparent as an ensemble capable of anchoring psychiatry in firm scientific ground.

The publication of Kraepelin's work in English translation fulfills an outstanding gap in the textual record. Previously available were Griesinger's watershed text of 1845 (also, in excerpted form, Feuchtersleben's historically ill-fated alternative text) and Krafft-Ebing's *Textbook of Insanity* (first edition in 1881), which succeeded Griesinger's as the dominant German-language text before being displaced in its turn by Kraepelin's. Also available were Bleuler's two landmarks, the monograph on schizophrenia of 1911 and the text of 1916. So it was possible in broad overview to see the evolution of descriptive psychiatry from its presumptive organicist beginnings and thus to chart the evolution of its sometimes intimate, sometimes tentative, and sometimes frankly skeptical relationship to psychodynamic theories as they evolved during the same period. But heretofore Kraepelin has only been available in the relatively modest form of his *Clinical Lectures*, which however attractive are open to misinterpretation. And without Kraepelin in the sequence one is arguably missing the heart of the matter, or rather overlooking the true ground upon which the debates between rival theories were conducted. Thus, to take but a single, almost trivial, example, contemporary readers have been subjected over the past three decades to a multi-volume debate on the evolution of the psychoanalytic theory of paranoia without any of the contributors, save Lothane (*In Defense of Schreber: Soul Murder and Psychiatry*. Hillsdale, NJ: Analytic Press, 1992), even beginning to present an adequate understanding of what the actual psychiatric context was for Freud's tortuous re-examination of the Schreber case. Now hopefully that mistake will no



longer be made. And more importantly, a large number of perhaps even more important mistakes can also be circumvented.

The introduction by Jacques Quen fulfills three admirable functions at the same time. First, as any introduction should but few do, it prepares the reader for the task at hand: namely to read. Quen is attuned to and appreciative of Kraepelin's sophistication. With his concise yet highly informative summary of the man and the text he positions the reader to appreciate, almost to savor, what lies ahead. Second, Quen goes the extra mile and raises for the reader's appreciation the question of Kraepelin's historical reception in this country and of his subsequent, unfairly diminished reputation. The issue is ultimately too complex to be satisfactorily disposed of in the space at hand and Quen does not attempt that, but he does his subject the courtesy of raising the issue and thus joins other historians such as Ellenberger who understood well how the vagaries of fashion too often lead, as in this case, to injustice and historical misunderstanding. Finally, quite gracefully, Quen tentatively suggests that the American disparagement of Kraepelin historically may not be unconnected to our recent contretemps vis-à-vis British colleagues over the incidence of manic-depression vs. schizophrenia in the general hospital population. Misdiagnosis in the age of lithium is not without consequence for patients. Quen does not make this heavy-handed point, but by raising the general issue he does offer the reader a sense of why history is of practical importance--and why Kraepelin should be read.

- J. Kerr



Barbara Fass Leavy, *In Search of the Swan Maiden: A Narrative on Folklore and Gender*. New York: NYU Press, 1994.

The Swan Maiden: lush Tchaikovsky melodies; *Fantasia's* sugar-plum fairies (or is that *The Nutcracker?*); a pale, anorectic-appearing woman in white tulle gliding gracefully across a stage; the english horn solo in *The Swan of Tuonela*; Lang's color books of fairy tales. Leavy helps us tumble this jumble of associations out of our heads and discard the erroneous (I won't give up my english horn!), adds to our knowledge, and then helps us order the multiple themes into a rich, evocative, and illuminating set of readings of this common (ubiquitous) folk tale.

Leavy draws on many sources of the core myth, Vedic, Nordic, Asian, European, American (north and south). The story, mortal man and immortal woman, echoes its obverse, mortal woman and immortal man, eg. Lohengrin (Swan Knight), Orpheus, Semele.

The narrative, often constructed from multiple, overlapping, at times contradictory variants, is that a man captures an animal or supernatural woman by stealing her covering, sealskin or swan's wings, and then holds her as wife and drudge. She cannily regains her skin and escapes; he quests in hope, sometimes fulfilled, of regaining her. While widely studied it has rarely been interpreted. Leavy suggests that the constant features and recurrent motifs, as well as the variants, inform us of the layers of meaning that the story can hold.

It may be that telling the tale of the Swan Maiden helped people talk about power struggles between men and women, and failed marital relationships; about women's fantasies of fleeing and escaping the role of bourgeois housewife as an alternative to facing reality and accommodating to ordinary life with its constraints and impositions. Perhaps, absent the stories, we are more likely to be faced with the runaway wife (and errant husband). However, such a reading does little justice to the rich complexity of the text as it moves back and forth across variants, from Swan Maiden to animal groom (Beauty and the Beast), interweaving story and interpretations. It echoes, in its structure and content, a successful psychoanalysis. In addition, the 26 page bibliography seductively leads one further into the story. Who can resist such titles as *The Shade of the Balkans*, *Tales from the Cloud Walking Country*, or *When God Has Lipstick on His Collar: Theological Implications of Divine Adultery*? This is a book that reflects the author's erudition, enthusiasm, and ebullience.

- W. A. Frosch



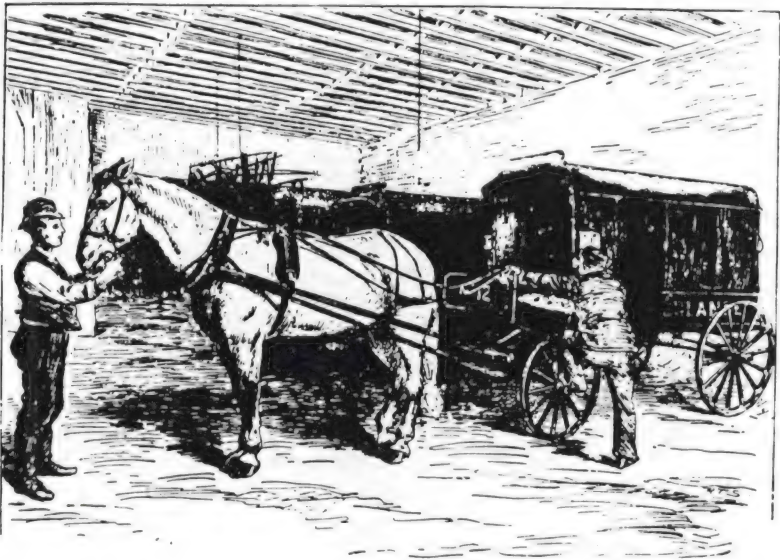
Mark Micale and Roy Porter, eds. *Discovering the History of Psychiatry*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994.

This impressive, important collection of twenty-one essays on the historiography of psychiatry is dedicated to Dr. Eric T. Carlson, the director of the History of Psychiatry Section from 1958 to his untimely death in 1992. And well that it should be, considering the pioneering role that Ted Carlson and the Section played in the phenomenal growth of the study of psychiatric history and the history of mental illness. *Discovering the History of Psychiatry*, wide-ranging, erudite, and interdisciplinary, is a manifestation of this new scholarship of the past thirty-five years.

The editors have brought together a distinguished group of American and European historians, physicians, social scientists, and philosophers who explore variously the complexities of scholarship and thought in the history of psychiatry and reveal the diverse and

changing ideological, scientific, and social currents that have figured in research and writing in the fields. The tone of the collection is predominantly critical but not rejecting of psychiatry; it reflects what the editors call "the supremely postmodernist preoccupation with self-awareness" (p. 26). There are chapters on early historiography, influential historians, psychoanalysis, historical themes (including psychiatry under the Nazis and the Soviets), and critics of psychiatry (including papers on Foucault and on feminist histories). Among the authors are several associated with the section -- George Mora, writing on American historians of psychiatry from 1910 to 1960; Gerald Grob, offering personal reflections on the "history of asylum"; and Norman Dain, concluding the volume with an essay on psychiatry and anti-psychiatry in the United States.

- N. Dain

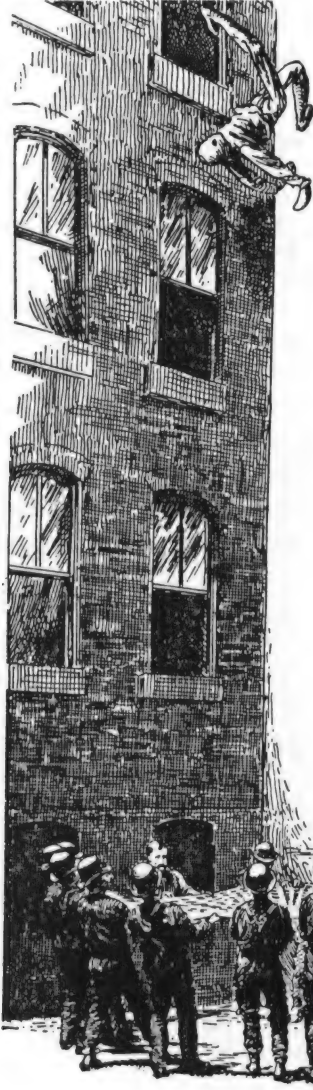


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We would like to express our warm appreciation to Dr. Arthur A. Anderson, Mrs. Oskar Diethelm, Dr. Arnold Diethelm, Dr. John Loomis, Dr. Doris Nagel, Dr. Jacques Quen, and Mr. Frank and Mrs. Nancy Richardson for their continuing contributions far beyond the categories of membership.



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In addition we give special thanks to the following Friends (and others whom we may not have remembered to name) who have given books, journals, and other gifts or volunteered their services in the past academic year.

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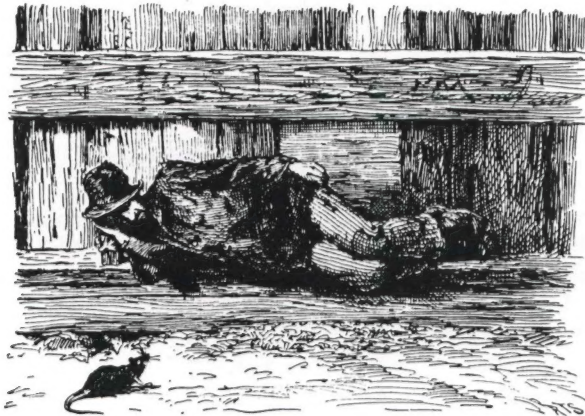


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\* Drs Kroll and Verhey were inadvertently omitted from the membership list in the 1992-1993 report. They have been longstanding, loyal Friends of the Section, and we offer them our apologies. Dr. Carlson might have suggested to them that the gremlins had been at work.



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